MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 NOVEMBER 1982

Israel

Death of 'Aliza Begin -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin cut short his U.S. tour and returned immediately to Israel after hearing of the death of his wife, 'Aliza Begin, Jerusalem radio reported. Prime ministerial spokesman Uri Porat said he expects that Begin will continue as prime minister and will return to the United States for talks at the White House after 30 days mourning.

Aftermath of Tyre Explosion -- Seventy-five Israelis and fifteen non-Israelis were killed in the 11 November explosion at the Israeli military building in Tyre, according to announcements by the IDF spokesman broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Another 20 people were wounded by the blast, which Israeli munitions experts now attribute to a gas leak and not to sabotage, the radio said. Jerusalem radio reported that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said the cause of the Tyre explosion has not yet been determined. However, Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said the Cabinet was given information "clearly showing that the disaster was not caused by terrorist sabotage." Nevertheless, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces demolished the building with a carbomb loaded with high explosives. The Tyre operation proves that a Palestinian fighting force is still present in southern Lebanon, contrary to Israeli claims, the radio asserted.

To maintain the achievements of the war in Lebanon and to conclude a security arrangement that meets Israel's needs, the Israelis must exercise patience and coolness, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said in an interview with IDF radio. IDF soldiers in Lebanon should be alert and guard against lack of vigilance while being firm but fair toward the local population, he added.

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil in Saudi Arabia -- President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived in Saudi Arabia on 14 November and subsequently held talks with King Fahd and other Saudi officials, according to Jidda and Riyadh radio reports. Although PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's presence at the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's funeral in Moscow has precluded the planned PLO-Lebanese summit in Riyadh, the PLO still welcomes the idea of an Al-Jumayyil-'Arafat meeting, the PLO representative in Saudi Arabia disclosed earlier in a statement reported by KUNA.

President al-Jumayyil is expected to visit Syria on 25 November, according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio.

Security Situation -- A 14 November carbomb explosion in the Ash-Shuf township of 'Aramun killed one person and injured four others, Beirut radio reported. The previous day, a similar explosion killed three persons and injured seven others in Ash-Shuwayfat, according to the radio. Another explosion killed one person and wounded three others in the Burj al-Barajinah area of Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Further violence erupted in the Ash-Shuf region when Christian and Druze gunmen exchanged fire in a village near the Ad-Damur River, AFP reported citing AN-NAHAR. Three people died in the fighting, which started when the Druze-controlled village came under attack late on 12 November, AN-NAHAR said. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that Druze gunmen killed two persons in a 14 November ambush in the same area.

PLO

'Arafat Interview -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat said in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo broadcast on 12 November that an Israeli military operation is expected in the Al-Biqa' Valley and in northern Lebanon. After noting the losses of the Palestinians and their allies caused by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, he warned that the Palestinians will settle their accounts and bloodshed will continue. Asked about differences with Syria, 'Arafat expressed eagerness to preserve PLO-Syrian relations.

Stance on Negotiations -- The PLO rejects the "unjust U.S. terms which call for offering concessions as a price for dialogue with the United States" and also considers that the Fes summit resolutions stipulate the minimum inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, a PLO spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio on 14 November. Earlier, Yasir 'Arafat sent an urgent message to Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in Washington reaffirming the PLO stance on participation in peace negotiations, Radio Monte Carlo reported. In an interview with the same radio, 'Ali said that during his visit to Washington he was able to convey the viewpoints of the PLO and the United States to each other.

Khalid al-Hasan Comment, Diplomacy -- Khalid al-Hasan, a member of Fatah's Central Committee and the head of the Palestine National Council's Foreign Relations Committee, said in an interview with the French weekly LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR that Israel is a reality and the Palestinians "are ready to live in peace next to that fait accompli," KUNA reported. Al-Hasan claimed that Yasir 'Arafat would hold talks with Israeli Prime Minister Begin if the latter was prepared to meet with the PLO leader. Khalid al-Hasan met with Jordanian King Husayn in Fes on 13 November, according to Amman radio. King Husayn had arrived in Morocco prior to leading the Arab League's seven-man committee to Paris, KUNA noted.

Brezhnev Funeral

Before flying to Moscow to attend the funeral of late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq was asked if he would raise the subject of Afghanistan. According to Karachi radio, he replied: "Who could be better for discussing the issue than the Soviet leaders?" Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and PLO leader 'Arafat also arrived in Moscow for the funeral, according to reports by Damascus and Aden radios and by TASS. INA noted that Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf would represent Iraq; Iran's delegation is headed by Mir Salim, special envoy of the president, Tehran radio reported. Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud heads the Libyan delegation, while Egypt sent a delegation under Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim, according to JANA and MENA.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- Both sides continued their claims to have inflicted heavy losses on each other. According to Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Baghdad radio and Voice of the Masses radio over the weekend, the Iraqis killed over 1,350 Iranians in recent battles. On the other hand, a 13 November Iranian communique carried by Tehran radio claimed that the Iranians foiled a 12 November Iraqi counteroffensive, killing or wounding about 650 Iraqis. An earlier communique broadcast by the radio said 4 more Iraqi aircraft were downed on 11-12 November, bringing the total number of Iraqi planes downed during Iran's latest offensive to 17. However, an Iraqi military spokesman denied any aircraft losses on 11-12 November, INA reported.

Sudanese Volunteers -- Thousands of Sudanese have volunteered for service with the Iraqi Popular Army and 300 have thus far been selected, SUNA reported.

Iran on Referendum Proposal -- Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's declared intention to hold a referendum on the Iraqi Government system is "the most sensible thing Saddam has ever said," Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi declared in an interview reported by Tehran radio. Iran is prepared to help make possible the referendum, which should be held under the supervision of the Iraqi clergy and of other clergymen "from the Islamic world who oppose both East and West," he added.

Iran

Revolution Guards killed or arrested about 80 Feda'iyan-e Khalq activists in the Esfahan region, Tehran radio reported on 13 November. Meanwhile, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio claimed that Guards Corps Commander Mohsen Reza'i has submitted his resignation in protest at the recent appointment of Mohsen Rafiqdust as guards minister.

Gulf Defense

At the end of a visit to Kuwait, French Minister of External Affairs Claude Cheysson announced that France will shortly send a delegation of experts to Kuwait to discuss the latter's need for French arms, KUNA reported.

Earlier, the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN revealed that the GCC summit conference in Manama decided to establish a united military command based in Bahrain.

Saudi Arabia-Maghreb

Saudi King Fahd will pay an official visit to Algeria on 21 November, according to an Algerian presidential announcement broadcast by Algiers radio. Saudi sources cited by the Doha paper AL-'ARAB disclosed that the visit is a mediation mission aimed at improving Algerian-Moroccan relations, WAKH reported.

DAILY REPORT

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MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

AFGHANISTAN

3-Day National Mourning Declared for Brezhnev C 1
Dost Sends Message to Gromyko C 1
Karmal Signs Condolence Book C 1
Karmal Departs for Moscow C 1

INDIA

3-Day Mourning Period for Brezhnev Announced E 1
Gandhi, Rao Leave for Brezhnev Funeral 14 Nov E 1
Three Explosions Reported in Punjab 13 Nov E 1
Chief Minister, Akali Leaders Meet 14 Nov E 1

PAKISTAN

Ziaul Haq Returns From Southeast Asian Visits F 1
Airport News Conference F 1
Departure for Moscow F 2
Leaders Express Condolences at Soviet Embassy F 2
Acting President Haleem F 2
Acting CMLA Iqbal Khan F 3
Foreign Minister To Visit Iran 20 November F 3
Minister Calls Law, Order Situation 'Normal' F 3
[DAWN 5 Nov]

IRAN

Delegation Departs for Brezhnev Funeral I 1
Reaction to Iraqi President's Statements I 1
Foreign Ministry Spokesman I 1
Prime Minister's Comments I 1
Cabinet Discussion I 2
Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques I 3
Communique No 1,119 I 3
Communique No 1,120 I 3
Communique No 1,121 I 4
Commanders View Moharram Operation Successes I 5
Guards Corps' Mohsen Reza'i I 5
Ground Forces' Sayyad-Shirazi I 5
Iraqis Shell Abadan; Damages Described I 6
Guards Corps Commander's Resignation Reported I 6
[Free Voice of Iran]

3-DAY NATIONAL MOURNING DECLARED FOR BREZHNEV

LD121504 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee, DRA Revolutionary Council and the DRA Council of Ministers have declared a 3-day period of national mourning throughout the DRA starting from tomorrow, 13 November, following the death of L.I. Brezhnev, the true friend of the Afghan people and the indefatigable militant for the cause of peace, friendship, prosperity and security of the people of the world.

During this period, the DRA national flag and the PDPA flag will be hoisted at half mast everywhere.

Dost Sends Message to Gromyko

LD121528 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost has communicated a condolence message to Moscow on the death of L.I. Brezhnev. The message is addressed to Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Gromyko.

Karmal Signs Condolence Book

LD140038 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this morning visited the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. He registered his deep sorrow in a special book of condolences opened in the embassy at the death of L.I. Brezhnev.

Members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee; members of the party Central Committee; members of the Revolutionary Council; the chairman and members of the Council of Ministers; the head and members of the Supreme Court; members of the Executive Council of the National Fatherland Front; deputies and staff of departments of the PDPA Central Council; [words indistinct] social organizations in charge of the Kabul city party committee; personnel of city social organizations; high-ranking officers of the armed forces; high-ranking civil officials; and representatives of Kabul workers also registered their sorrow in the special book of condolences.

Karmal Departs for Moscow

LD141318 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 0730 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Kabul, 14 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, left for the Soviet Union this morning at the head of a high-ranking delegation to attend the funeral of the late L.I. Brezhnev.

Babrak Karmal and the delegation accompanying him were seen off at Kabul Airport by members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat, members of the PDPA Central Committee, deputies of the Revolutionary Council, members of the Revolutionary Council Presidium, chairman of the Council of Ministers, head and members of the Supreme Court, members of the National Fatherland Front Central Council, members of the high council of ulema and clergy and of Islamic affairs, heads of social organizations, and the USSR charge d'affaires in Kabul.

Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, members of Politburo and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, and Mohammad Anwar Farzam, secretary of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, are in the delegation.

3-DAY MOURNING PERIOD FOR BREZHNEV ANNOUNCED

BK121633 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Vice President M. Hidayatullah and External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao today signed the condolence book at the Soviet Embassy in New Delhi.

The General Council of All India Trade Union Congress has said in a resolution that Brezhnev will be ever remembered for his contribution to the cause of peace and for national liberation movement.

The union government has announced state mourning for 3 days from today as a mark of respect for memory of President Brezhnev. During the period the national flag will be flown at half-mast throughout the country in all government buildings and the Indian missions abroad. According to Home Ministry sources, there will be no official entertainment.

GANDHI, RAO LEAVE FOR BREZHNEV FUNERAL 14 NOV

BK141241 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi left for Moscow this evening to attend the funeral of Brezhnev, which takes place tomorrow. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and some senior officials are accompanying her.

THREE EXPLOSIONS REPORTED IN PUNJAB 13 NOV

BK140910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] In Punjab, three explosions took place in Gurdaspur and Ludhiana districts yesterday. According to an official spokesman while crackers were used in the two explosions in Gurdaspur district, some fire explosive device is suspected to have been used in the Ludhiana blast. There was no loss of life or injury to any person. However, the explosions caused some minor loss to property.

Meanwhile, the Punjab police have made about 300 preventive arrests of Akali workers for apprehension of breach of peace.

Punjab Chief Minister Darbara Singh has alleged that the Akali agitation in the state is aimed at grabbing power through unconstitutional means. Addressing a public meeting at (Kohala) last evening, he said he is not opposed to acceptance of the Akalis' religious demands.

CHIEF MINISTER, AKALI LEADERS MEET 14 NOV

BK141605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah met the top Akali leaders in Amritsar today. Later, talking to newsmen he expressed the hope that it will be possible to defuse the situation and find a way out which will strengthen the country.

News agencies add that about 400 Akali workers have been held in various parts of Punjab since Friday last. In Delhi some Akali leaders were taken into custody in the early hours of today.

According to agency reports the Central Bureau of Investigation [CBI] is understood to have been asked to go into the pending cases against the Sikh extremists in Punjab some of whom are under detention. The CBI will go into the nature of the charges.

ZIAUL HAQ RETURNS FROM SOUTHEAST ASIAN VISITS

BK131730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Excerpt] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq returned to Islamabad tonight after a 2-week's visit to the Southeast Asian countries. He was received at the airport by the chairman, joint chiefs of staff committee, Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan, Vice Chief of Army Staff Gen Sawar Khan, Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, Vice Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral I.F. Qadir, federal ministers, members of the Majlis-i-Shoora, councillors and diplomats.

Airport News Conference

BK141141 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed complete satisfaction over the outcome of his visits to South and Southeast Asia and said that they have been successful beyond his expectations.

Addressing a news conference at Islamabad Airport last night upon his return from a 13-day visit to these countries, he said he had been successful in attaining the objectives established for his trip. These included establishing contacts at the highest level with leaders of these countries for promoting of mutual understanding and cooperation and to exchange views on regional and international issues.

The president described his talks with Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi as very useful and of great signficance, setting a positive course for the beginning of a new era of mutual trust and friendship between two countries. We have moved a step forward by setting up the joint commission, he said, noting that the friendly relations between them would not only benefit the two countries but also would be useful for regional and international peace and security.

Referring to his visits to Indonesia and Malaysia, the president said Pakistan has centuries-old ties with these Islamic countries and his recent visits have further strengthened these relations and brought these countries closer. He noted that we are cooperating with each other on the international level and making joint efforts for global peace and unity.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said his visit to Southeast Asian countries has dispelled the impression that Pakistan, since 1971, has aligned itself completely to the Middle East. The president said that these countries highly appreciated Pakistan's policy and lauded its political stability and economic prosperity. These countries hold Pakistan in very high esteem and desire increased cooperation in economic and technical fields. He said he has invited leaders of these countries to visit Pakistan.

In reply to a question, the president said the Kashmir issue is the major hurdle in the improvement of relations between Pakistan and India. He said this issue, as has been stated by him on a number of occasions, can be solved peacefully in accordance with UN resolutions and the spirit of the Simla agreement.

In reply to another question, he said that, during his talks with the Indian prime minister, he told the latter that Pakistan is acquiring a modest amount of arms from the United States which are intended to replace obsolete weapons.

When asked about the possibility of forming an organization of regional countries along the lines of ASEAN, the president said deliberations have been going on for the last 2 years in this regard and now it will be discussed in February or March in New Delhi at the foreign secretaries meeting which will discuss modalities for convening the first foreign ministerial level meeting in September.

In reply to a question relating to his visit to Moscow, the president said that he is leaving for Moscow today to express condolences on his own behalf and that of Pakistan. Brezhnev was a great leader and statesman during the current century. He said that he curtailed his Singapore visit to attend last rites to Brezhnev.

Earlier, in his farewell message to Singapore's president and prime minister from his plane, President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said his visit to their country has provided an opportunity to exchange views on bilateral relations and international issues of common interest. The president in similar messages from his plane to the prime ministers of Malaysia, Thailand and India and the Burmese president expressed good wishes for the progress and prosperity of these countries.

Departure for Moscow

BK141632 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Islamabad for Moscow this afternoon to represent Pakistan at the last rites of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and the foreign secretary are accompanying him.

Before his departure, when he was asked whether he would discuss the Afghanistan issue with the Soviet leaders during his visit, the president said: Who could be better for discussing the issue than the Soviet leaders? But his visit to Moscow was clearly of a condolence nature and he was not looking forward to political talks.

In reply to a question whether he will meet some leaders of various countries, the president said that he will meet them if he gets an opportunity.

In reply to another question, he said that Afghan refugees will welcome any solution of the Afghanistan issue which will pave the way for their return home in an honorable manner.

Pakistan's flag will fly at half-mast tomorrow on the occasion of late Soviet President Brezhnev's funeral.

LEADERS EXPRESS CONDOLENCES AT SOVIET EMBASSY

Acting President Haleem

BK121048 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Acting President Mr Justice Mohammad Haleem visited the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad this morning and offered condolences to Soviet Ambassador V. Smirnov on the demise of President Brezhnev. Recording his impressions in the condolence book, the acting president paid glowing tributes to the late Soviet leader for the services he rendered to his country and nation. He said the Government and people of Pakistan equally share the grief of the Government and the people of the Soviet Union.

Acting CMLA Iqbal Khan

BK131218 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Acting Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan visited the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad this morning to condole the death of Soviet President Brezhnev. Recording his impressions in the condolence book, the acting CMLA observed that the Soviet Union has lost a great leader and a patriot.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT IRAN 20 NOV

BK131221 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] It was reliably learnt in Islamabad today that Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan will pay a 3-day visit to Iran from 20 November. According to these reliable sources, he is visiting Iran at the invitation of the Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati. The two leaders are expected to discuss bilateral relations, political issues and the regional situation.

The informed sources said that Pakistan and Iran have established good understanding as their friendship was between the two peoples and they have mutuality of interest. As neighbors, they have close relationship. Through a policy of good will and cooperation, they have been able to overcome whatever negative strain had come to the surface in the immediate aftermath of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

MINISTER CALLS LAW, ORDER SITUATION 'NORMAL'

GF121350 Karachi DAWN in English 5 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Multan, Nov 4 -- The interior minister, Mr Mahmud A. Haroon, has said that the law and order situation in the country is normal.

Talking to newsmen at the airport on his arrival here from Rawalpindi, he said that there were some cases of subversive activities, but all necessary steps had been taken to combat them in future.

In reply to a question, he said that in all 49 cases against alleged subversive elements had been registered and 23 persons had been convicted. He said that according to statistics, the increase in number of crimes during October last was comparatively less that that in the month of September.

Agencies add: Mr Mahmud Haroon said that besides those belonging to Al-Zulfiqar Organisation, some other terrorists were also at work in the country. These elements, he said, enjoyed the support of some foreign powers.

Replying to another question, he said that the hearing of Ch. Zahur Elahi murder case had been completed and decision was expected shortly. He said important clues had been found to the murder of Zahoorul Hasan Bhopali and hunt was going on for the arrest of some people in this regard.

Replying to yet another question, the minister said only 11 persons were under detention on political grounds in the country.

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR BREZHNEV FUNERAL

LD141056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, an Islamic Republic of Iran delegation headed by Mr Mir Salim, the president's special envoy, left Tehran this afternoon for Moscow to participate in Brezhnev's funeral which is due to be held tomorrow. Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi and a number of other Foreign Ministry officials are included in the Iranian delegation.

REACTION TO IRAQI PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS

Foreign Ministry Spokesman

LD121904 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 12, IRNA -- A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic in reply to Saddam's claims on Wednesday said that the recent liberation of more than 500 sq kms of Iranian territory by the Islamic combatants was vivid proof that the Iraqi aggressors had not retreated back to the international borders as they had claimed.

Speaking to IRNA on Thursday, the spokesman said that the liberated regions had been inspected by foreign reporters and that Iraq still occupied Iranian territories in other regions of the country.

On Saddam's allegations that the Islamic Republic coveted Iraqi territory, the spokesman said that war had its own special laws while the Iraqi regime has blatantly violated all Islamic and international laws and did not refrain from occupying and destroying Iranian cities and towns. Nevertheless, the Iranian thrust into Iraqi territory has highly scared Saddam, while Iran has repeatedly stressed that it does not covet Iraq's nor any other country's territory.

He said that the only reason why the Islamic forces had occupied parts of Iraqi territory was only because they wanted to gain the lost rights of the Iranian people and they would return to the international border as soon as Iran's justified conditions had been met.

In relation to Saddam's call for a referendum in Iran and Iraq, the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said that the Iraqi Ba'thist regime had come to power through a military coup and had based its rule on suppression and intimidation. He said that the Iraqi regime knew that if it granted the slightest bit of freedom to its people it would be overthrown. However, he added, the Islamic Republic had been established through the vote of the people enjoying freedom and the right of expression.

Prime Minister's Comments

LD131306 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] In an interview given to representatives of domestic mass media today, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi discussed the current domestic and regional situations.

In connection with the recent statement by the head of the Iraqi Zionist regime that he is prepared to hold a referendum on the Iraqi Government system, the prime minister said: This is the most sensible thing Saddam has ever said. We are prepared to help make this referendum possible. Of course, it must not be like the referenda held under the Shahanshah's or the 'Aflaqite Ba'th regimes. Instead, it should be a referendum held under the supervision of the Iraqi clergy, who enjoy the support of the Iraqi nation, and under the supervision of clergymen from the Islamic world who oppose both East and West and who enjoy the confidence of the 1 billion world Muslims.

Asked about the situation of Islam's fighting forces following the victorious Moharram operations, the prime minister said: A year ago the 'Aflaqite Ba'thists had Abadan circled. Today, dozens of Iraqi cities are within range of our guns. However, we have not fired a single shell toward these cities . We instead have clear-cut plans for crushing the enemy. Saddam's masters gradually are losing hope of his continued existence. Meanwhile, our nation is ready, when necessary, to administer the coup de grace to that regime with a general mobilization.

Regarding the new draft labor law, Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said: The Labor Ministry has proposed to the government a draft law which has not yet been studied, but God willing, the government soon will begin its study. The prime minister added: As prime minister, I say the government should be the protector of the humble in society, the protector of the workers, farmers, humble civil servants and all deprived sections of society. Our religion dictates this and constitutes the fabric of our Constitution. In principle, if any draft law contradicts the spirit of justice, a revolutionary government naturally cannot accept it. Protection of farmers, workers or any other humble sector should be within the framework of Islamic standards, and the Islamic government has the instruments necessary for this. For instance, we cannot tell a private sector employer to insure a worker and give him so many days leave per year nor can we dictate the minimum wage. However, we can tell the employer: If you don't observe the government's regulations in these areas you will not be eligible for such government services as water, telephones, highways, etc. As you see, there is no need for any further actions.

The prime minister added: The imam of the Islamic nation has issued a fatwa [religious decree] that the income from the sale of the oil belongs to the government and is the property of the Islamic government, which should be spent on the administration of the state of the interests of the nation. An employer who refuses to observe regulations of this Islamic government -- regulations decidedly formulated for the public good -- cannot avail himself of primary materials obtained thanks to these funds. In a free market, where the supply of labor is superficially free but where oppressive circumstances actually prevail, we cannot allow anyone to abuse anyone else.

Continuing his interview with reporters of the domestic mass media about the situation in the factories, the prime minister said: Since the beginning of the revolution, the workers have protected the factories as a capital asset belonging to the entire nation, have fought against counterrevolution and have exposed the minigroups. The Islamic worker councils and committees have stood up to all deviation, although it is natural in view of the immensity of our industries that mistakes occasionally have been made. Extremely important is the selfless, crusading and martyrdom-seeking spirit of the workers. Workers often have cut down their evening meals to help the jihad's budget, have appeared on the fronts bearing arms and have stood shoulder to shoulder with the forces of the Islamic revolution guards and the armed forces, sacrificing their blood to Islam. Our workers continue to do this. Their answer to any minigroup contemplating any moves against our Islamic system is a slap in the mouth.

The prime minister added: In view of our dear workers' monolithic presence and their extensive Islamic vigilance, counterrevolution does not dare show its face in the factories and, God willing, will not dare to do so in the future. I hope that as soon as possible the draft bill in the councils prepared by our brother Majlis deputies will be raised in the Majlis and approved after the necessary study.

Cabinet Discussion

GF141838 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 14, IRNA -- Prime Minister Mir - Hoseyn Musavi at the conclusion of the Cabinet ministers meeting today, told IRNA that the session studied political and propaganda ruses Saddam has engineered for keeping himself in power.

Prime minister added "we were informed yesterday that Saddam's regime has staged a rubber stamped demonstration similar to what the shah did." He added Iran was still stuck to its proposal and believed that a referendum under supervision of Iraqi ulema and all Muslims of the world could decide the fate on Saddam for the Iraqi nation.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was a recent Iraqi counter-offensive. Musavi said that the Iraqi regime intended to take advantage of the counter-offensive and announce a victory. But Iranian combatants gave him a good lesson and inflicted heavy casualties upon Saddam's forces.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,119

LD121732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,119 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With God Almighty's assistance and as a result of efforts rendered day and night by the selfless pilots of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the active personnel of the air defense command and with the cooperation of all committed and dedicated members of that force, four more Iraqi aircraft were downed last night at 2237 and 2329 and today at 0026 and 1317 in the Moharram operational zone by our fighter aircraft and the air defense of the air force. The number of Iraqi aircraft downed during the Moharram operation is now 17. Our forces also provided air cover for ground operations.

Our brave and combatant ground units in the Moharram operational zone this morning repulsed a heavy enemy offensive, inflicting considerable casualties and damage on the Iraqi mercenaries and later forcing them to retreat in disgrace. At the moment, the forces of Islam, maintaining their full preparedness and honor, are stationed in their positions and by answering enemy fire bravely are defending their positions.

Intense exchanges of fire continued yesterday along the Arvand Rud between our forces and the forces of Saddam. As a result of our fire, seven enemy bunkers were destroyed and at least 15 Iraqi military personnel were either killed or injured. Two houses were destroyed yesterday in Abadan as a result of enemy mortar fire and a few other places in the city were set on fire. In the past 24 hours on the western fronts, our artillery fire destroyed 20 enemy vehicles and several weapons and bunkers and killed more than 20 Saddam soldiers. With regard to the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operation, exchanges of heavy fire continue and our forces, while countering enemy activities and silencing its fire, inflicted casualties on the Iraqis by destroying some of their positions.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,120

LD131810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,120 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With the help of Almighty God, the disgraceful and criminal life of Saddam and his followers will be ended.

Dear compatriots, the results of the efforts and self-sacrifices of the selfless combatants of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran is hereby brought to your attention: During the futile counteroffensive launched by the Saddamist mercenaries yesterday morning in the Moharram operational region, which was confronted by the courageous resistance of the victorious combatants of Islam, the defeated Iraqi forces suffered considerable losses and casualities and were forced to retreat. The combatants of Islam, while foiling this counteroffensive, dealt heavy blows on enemy field guns and units, captured POW's, killed and wounded about 650 of the Iraqi forces and destroyed 6 enemy tanks.

On 11-12 November, the disintegrating Saddamist mercenaries attempted to launch a counteroffensive three times in the Moharram operational region but each time they suffered heavy casualties, losses, another disgrace, and fled the scene.

At 1615 on 11 November, a helicopter belonging to the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries was shot down by the fire of the combatants of Islam in the Moharram operational region.

During the exchange of fire on the Abadan fronts, the heroes of the Gendarmerie opened fire on enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, killing and wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers. Our combatants destroyed several enemy entrenchments.

The exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday on the country's western fronts. The victorious forces ofIslam opened fire on Iraqi positions, silenced the enemy fires and inflicted damage and casualties. The damage to the enemy included the destruction of one tank, one ammunition depot, one antiaircraft gun, one engineering vehicle and several entrenchments.

A number of Iraqi aggressive planes yesterday intended to violate the airspace of several of the country's western and southern fronts. The fire of the antiaircraft defense units and tactical moves of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran forced the enemy planes to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,121

LD141730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,121 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name, the champion combatants of Islam opened fire on artillery and tank positions, mortar emplacements and infantry units of the deteriorating and weak army of Saddam during the past 24 hours, a number of Iraqi soldiers have been killed and some of their equipment has been destroyed in the Moharram operational region. Our forces, while defending their own positions, prevented the remnants of the Iraqi forces from moving about on this front. Also, one of our combative units destroyed four personnel carriers and took a quantity of arms and ammunition as booty. In addition, due to the intensity of fire of our artillery units, the activities of enemy engineering units and personnel were stopped in this region and their artillery fire was silenced.

In the western operational region, the superior combat capability of the forces defending the Islamic revolution kept enemy artillery and armored units under crushing fire on various fronts. The brave combatants of Islam in this region maintained control over their defensive positions and regions and opened fire on enemy positions. They destroyed a 106-mm gun and a vehicle belonging to the aggressors and set fire to one of their ammunition depots.

In Sumar and [name indistinct], the exchange of fire continued and the heavy artillery fire of our forces dealt effective blows on Saddamist forces. The supply activities of Iraqi forces were disrupted. Due to enemy mortar fire, three houses were destroyed yesterday in Abadan.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

COMMANDERS VIEW MOHARRAM OPERATION SUCCESSES

Guards Corps' Mohsen Reza'i

GF121630 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Qom, Nov 12, IRNA -- The Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Reza'i said here today that the results of the Moharram operation were very good, the most important of which was the control of the Islamic forces over the strategic border heights west of Eyn-e Khosh in Iranian territory.

He told IRNA that one of the results of the operation had been the dispersion of the enemy forces in a vast valley in its own territory. He said that if Iraq only needed nine brigades to secure the region prior to the offensive of the Islamic forces on Nov 1, it now needs much more to stop the Islamic forces from advancing through this vast desert. He said that neither Iraq nor its reactionary supporters had this ability.

Concerning the imperialist propaganda calling the Islamic Republic an aggressor, Reza'i said that Iran did not fear such propaganda and as it had said from the very beginning it would allow itself to advance up to any point where the enemy held fire on the Iranian towns, villages, and other vital centers.

He added that the Iraqi aggressors still occupied Iranian territory and said that until the U.S. and Saddam had not surrendered to Iran's rightful conditions and still continued their war, the Islamic forces would continue their defensive war and even advance further into Iraqi territory. [sentence as received]

The recent fatwa (religious decree) of Imam Khomeyni calling on all able persons to go to the front, he said had been very much welcomed by the people. He said that the more forces there were in the fronts, the better would be the future operations.

He said that the military commanders had even drawn up plans for the liberation of Baghdad and Quds (Jerusalem) by accounting all requirements, such as troops and divisions.

Reza'i said however, that those who worked in the government or revolutionary institutions should first report their readiness to the Islamic revolutionary guards so that they could be sent to the front according to its needs and in order to make the best use of them instead of wasting their time.

Ground Forces' Sayyad-Shirazi

LD142300 Tehran IRNA in English 1950 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Borujerd, Nov 14, IRNA -- Colonel [words indistinct] Sayyad-Shirazi said today that the Iraqi Army was presently in a miserable condition after being dispersed in a vast area after the victorious Moharram operation.

Speaking at a military base here in Borujerd, some 60 kms northeast of Khorramabad in Lorestan Province, he told IRNA that following the Moharram operation, the Islamic forces had acquired additional morale and spiritual strength to continue the struggle against the Iraqi aggressor from the Karbala',Qaemabad, Najafabad and Hamzeh Seyyed as-Shohada military headquarters stationed from the south to the north of the border.

The Moharram operation, which began on Nov 1, he said, was more successful than expected and the Islamic forces had thwarted all enemy counter-attacks.

"The powerful forces of Islam have not continued the war in order to add the lands of the enemy to their own," Sayyad-Shirazi said, "but our war is linked with our divine mission," further saying, "our combatants are fighting against a tyrant and an oppressor and to achieve their objectives, the overthrow of Saddam is a prerequisite."

The commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic said that in the first stage of the Iraqi aggression the enemy occupied some 10,711 sq kms of Iranian territory which were gradually regained by the Islamic forces during several offensives. He added that currently Iraqi forces held about 300 to 350 sq kms of Iranian land in the Fakhreh region, south of the Moharram theatre near the border with Iraq in Khuzestan Province, and Naftshahr, an oil centre in Bakhtaran Province near the border north of the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational region. "According to strategic plans which we are about to implement the demands of the Islamic Republic will be met, God willing," the colonel said.

Sayyad-Shirazi also told a gathering of military personnel at the base that the enemy forces had lost their combat effectiveness and it was now the Islamic Republic which spoke from a position of strength. Said he, "We will achieve our justified rights with our strength, a strength that has been given to us by God."

IRAQIS SHELL ABADAN; DAMAGES DESCRIBED

GF141430 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit in Abadan, while the zealous and able forces of Islam deal repeated mortal blows to the defeated body of the mercenaries in the southwestern parts of our country and while Saddam and his Ba'thist-Zionist regime are on the edge of the precipice due to these crushing blows, the Saddamist mercenaries again shelled the resistant city of Abadan with mortar and artillery fire. As a result of this barbaric action of the collapsing Iraqi regime, 13 heroic Abadan civilians were wounded. A 60-year-old man attained the great position of martyr. The report also says several 13-year-old boys are among the wounded. This [word indistinct] action of the Saddamist mercenaries also damaged two cars and three houses. One house was burned.

GUARDS CORPS COMMANDER'S RESIGNATION REPORTED

GF131605 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Guards Corps Commander Mohsen Reza'i has resigned. The Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Tehran has informed us that, according to a confidential report, trained terrorist Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Guards Corps, has resigned from his post. The reason for this is the appointment of Mohsen Rafiqdust as minister of the guards. The same report says Mohsen Reza'i's resignation apparently has not been accepted and Khomeyni has met with him twice at Jamaran, trying to pacify him. Mohsen Reza'i had expected to be appointed as the guards minister. Our correspondent adds that in addition to trained terrorist Reza'i, others from the Guards Corps leadership have resigned from their posts.